Rehabilitation and welfare mentally Retarded and Handicapped

*280. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Congress of Mentally Retarded Handicapned had its session in New Delhi in December last; and

(b) if so, has Government received the main resolutions passed and suggestions and observations made therein, for effective rehabilitation and welfare of (he mentally retarded and handicapped?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) The World Congress was held under the aegis of International League of Societies for Persons with Mental Handicap (ILSMH) and was organised by the National Forum for the Welfare of the Mentally Handicapped in collaboration with Thakur V. Hari Prasad Institute of Research and Rehabilitation, Hyderabad. The World Congress was held in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi from 20—27 November, 1994 and was attended by several experts, professionals, dignitaries and NGOs from India and abroad and world bodies. The World Congress focussed attention on the protection and development rehabilitation of the mentally handicapped. As the outcome of [he congress the following declaration called "the Delhi Declaration" was adopted unantmously:—

1. "People with mental handicap have the same Human Rights as all other poeple. they have too long been denied these rights."

2. "People with dental handicap re-nain particularly vulnerable to discrimination; discrimination on account of disability is compounded by all other kinds of discrimination in relation to gender, class, race, culture, religion age and sexuality."

3. "The time has come for people with mental handicap and their families to be guaranteed their rights and to be given due respect and equal status in all societies."

4. "Families are the main source of support and learning. They in turn need community support. Much needs to be done to improve public understanding of the needs and strengths of people with mental handicap and their families,. Schools, the media and institutions responsible for the training of professional staff have a key role to play in disseminating the knowledge we already have. They and their families must be at the centre of policy and decision-making, that affect there lives."

5. "Local and National Governments have crucial role in planning mobilising and resourcing appropriate services to support the individual, family, and community members with disability."

6. "Support must begin when the disabtlity is first identified and must be life-long. People with mental handicap and their families need access to ali the ordinary services available to other citizens. These include primary health care, education, housing, work opportunities, recreation and the opportunity to form relationships including sexual relationships."

7. "Only when people with mental handicap and their families are given air through appropriate support, will society to be able to benefit from the positive contribution they can make through full participation in the life of the community."

8. "Organisations of families, disabled people themselves, their families and professionals must work in close partnership with local, national and international bodies. The individual person with mental handicap and his or her family must be at the heart of the partnership,"

9. "The Unites Nations has now given a lead to the World by publishing STANDARD RULES ON EQUALI SATION OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED' PERSONS. We call on all Governments to disseminate and implement these Rules in partner ship with Organisations of disabled persons."

10. "This being the International Year of the Family, the XI World Cong ress radedicates itself to empower ing families and communities 10 enable every individual especially the young child to realise her/his full developmental potential. We have a moral obligation to act now, to be practical, to work in our local communities to create one in clusive community for all world wide".

Rain fed Agriculture

2829. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE: be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seventy live percent of agriculturists of the country still depend on rain fed agriculture; and

(b) the progress made is reducing this percentage during the last 5 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Agriculture Census data for 1990-91 are not get yet available. Data in respect of 1980-81 and 1985-86 is tabulated below:

Census Year	No. of operational Holdings		
	Wholly irrigated	Partly irrigated	Wholly unirrigated
1980-81 . . .	20352	19611	47050
1985-86	25292	16589	51329

The percentage of not irrigated area has increased from 26.9 per cent (1980-81) to 29.4 per cent during (1985-86).

(b) Agriculture Census data for the last five years are not available with the Government.

Amendment to the Vaterinary Council Bill

2830. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have received requests from Government of Maharashtra, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh regarding the amendment to the Vaterinary Council Bill 1984;

(b) if so, how many States have so far appealed for these amendment; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Government in this regard? . .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Only three States namely Haryana, Himachal Pradesh & maha-rashtra have appealed for the amendment of the Act. After due consideration, these States Governments have been informed of the inability of Government of India to amend the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984.

Veterinary services federation or India

2831. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by Government from the Veterinary Services Federation of India on the 9th March, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the demands of the non-Graduate Veterinary Staff; and